

CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Bolivia

DATE DISTR. 18 April 1949

SUBJECT MNR and PIR Plan for United Anti-Government Labor Demonstrations

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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR) and Partido Izquierda Revolucionario (PIR) heads are said to have accepted a previously reported proposal to form a united labor front in Bolivia for agitation against the government and capitalist interests.*
2. MNR and PIR leaders have decided to provoke civil disturbances through labor agitation. It is reported that the attempt to create disturbances will take place by 1 May at the latest. If this attempt is successful, an effort will be made to develop the disturbances into a full scale revolution during which the government will be overthrown.
3. In any event, the leaders of the two parties believe that labor demonstrations will help their candidates in the next elections.** Both parties are concerned over a loss of strength, and MNR leaders now believe their party is in danger of losing the elections in La Paz. The PIR has lost in popular support throughout the country in recent months, and reports from Cochabamba indicate that PIR head Jose Antonio Arze is in danger of not being re-elected to the Senate.
4. MNR labor leaders in charge of executing the labor program are Juan Lechin, Mario Torrez, and Florentino Quiroz, who are acting in conformity with instructions received from Victor Paz Estenssoro in Argentina. PIR leader Guillermo Lora is also cooperating.
5. The government is aware of these plans and is taking preventive measures. The police are in readiness to arrest additional MNR members and labor agitators.

*Cf.

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Comment. It is believed possible that elections will be postponed until 8 May.

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